

SECTION IV:

IMPLEMENTATION

IV. Implementation

A. PROCESS

The Hyde County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan will be implemented through the delegation of assignments by the County Manager, and as specified within this Plan. In the *Section III: Mitigation Strategy*, **20 mitigation actions** are listed and assigned specific implementation measures which include the assignment of responsibilities to local County departments and/or specific County staff, along with the establishment of a target completion date for each proposed mitigation action. When applicable, potential funding sources were also listed.

It will be the responsibility of the County Manager, as he/she sees fit, to ensure these actions are ultimately carried out no later than the target completion dates unless reasonable circumstances prevent their implementation (i.e., lack of funding availability). Otherwise, the completion of each proposed mitigation action has been determined feasible within the timeframe allowed.

Specific procedures for regular monitoring and reporting progress on the proposed mitigation actions are provided in *Section V: Evaluation and Enhancement*.

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B. FUNDING SOURCES

Although all mitigation techniques will likely save money by avoiding losses, many project are costly to implement. Hyde County will continue to seek outside funding assistance for mitigation projects in both the pre- and post-disaster environment. This portion of the Plan identifies the primary Federal and State grant programs for Hyde County to consider, and also briefly discusses local and non-governmental funding sources.

FEDERAL

The following federal grant programs have been identified as funding sources which specifically target hazard mitigation projects:

Title:	Emergency Management Performance Grant
Agency:	Federal Emergency Management Agency

The principal priority for the FY 2008 EMPG funds is to sustain and enhance catastrophic planning capabilities, to include addressing the findings of the FEMA gap analysis program and similar capability assessment efforts, and assisting state and local jurisdictions to address national and regional catastrophic planning needs. State and local jurisdictions should also continue to focus on addressing state-specific planning issues identified through the 2006 Nationwide Plan Review. In FY 2008, specific planning focus areas of evacuation planning, logistics and resource management, continuity of operations (COOP) / continuity of government (COG) planning, and recovery planning have been identified as national planning focus areas.

Purpose: The EMPG program provides resources to assist State and local governments to sustain and enhance all-hazards emergency management capabilities. States have the opportunity to use EMPG funds to further strengthen their ability to support emergency management activities while simultaneously addressing issues of national concern as identified in the National Priorities of the National Preparedness Guidelines. EMPG has a 50 percent Federal and 50 percent State cost-share cash or in-kind match requirement.

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Eligibility: FY 2008 EMPG allocations are determined as authorized by the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007. All 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico will receive a base amount of 0.75 percent of the total available grant funding. Four Territories (American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands) will receive a base amount of 0.25 percent of the total available grant funding. The balance of EMPG funds is distributed on a population-share basis. Pursuant to the Compact of Free Association, funds are available for the Federated States of Micronesia and for the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Title:	Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program
Agency:	Federal Emergency Management Agency

Through the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, Congress approved the creation of a national program to provide a funding mechanism that is not dependent on a Presidential disaster declaration. The Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program provides funding to states and communities for cost-effective hazard mitigation activities that complement a comprehensive mitigation program, and reduce injuries, loss of life, and damage and destruction of property.

The funding is based upon a 75 percent Federal share, 25 percent non-Federal share. The non-Federal match can be fully in-kind or cash, or a combination. Special accommodations will be made for "small and impoverished communities", who will be eligible for 90% Federal share, 10% non-Federal.

FEMA provides PDM grants to states that, in turn, can provide sub-grants to local governments for accomplishing the following eligible mitigation activities.

- State and local hazard mitigation planning
- Technical assistance [e.g. risk assessments, project development]
- Mitigation Projects
- Acquisition or relocation of vulnerable properties
- Hazard retrofits
- Minor structural hazard control or protection projects
- Community outreach and education [up to 10% of State allocation]

Title:	Flood Mitigation Assistance Program
Agency:	Federal Emergency Management Agency

FEMA's Flood Mitigation Assistance program (FMA) provides funding to assist states and communities in implementing measures to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood

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damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other structures insurable under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). FMA was created as part of the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 4101) with the goal of reducing or eliminating claims under the NFIP.

FMA is a pre-disaster grant program, and is made available to states on an annual basis. This funding is available for mitigation planning and implementation of mitigation measures only, and is based upon a 75 percent Federal share, 25 percent non-Federal share. States administer the FMA program and are responsible for selecting projects for funding from the applicants submitted by all communities within the state. The state then forwards selected applications to FEMA for an eligibility determination. Although individuals cannot apply directly for FMA funds, their local government may submit an application on their behalf.

Title:	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
Agency:	Federal Emergency Management Agency

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) was created in November 1988 through Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The HMGP assists states and local communities in implementing long-term mitigation measures following a Presidential disaster declaration.

To meet these objectives, FEMA can fund up to 75 percent of the eligible costs of each project. The state or local cost-share match does not need to be cash; in kind services or materials may also be used. With the passage of the Hazard Mitigation and Relocation Assistance Act of 1993, federal funding under the HMGP is now based on 15 percent of the federal funds spent on the Public and Individual Assistance programs (minus administrative expenses) for each disaster.

The HMGP can be used to fund projects to protect either public or private property, so long as the projects in question fit within the state and local government's overall mitigation strategy for the disaster area, and comply with program guidelines. Examples of projects that may be funded include the acquisition or relocation of structures from hazard-prone areas, the retrofitting of existing structures to protect them from future damages; and the development of state or local standards designed to protect buildings from future damages.

Eligibility for funding under the HMGP is limited to state and local governments, certain private nonprofit organizations or institutions that serve a public function, Indian tribes and authorized tribal organizations. These organizations must apply for HMGP project funding on behalf of their citizens. In turn, applicants must work through their state, since the state is responsible for setting priorities for funding and administering the program.

Title:	Public Assistance (Infrastructure) Program, Section 406
Agency:	Federal Emergency Management Agency

FEMA's Public Assistance Program, through Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, provides funding to local governments following a

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Presidential disaster declaration for mitigation measures in conjunction with the repair of damaged public facilities and infrastructure. The mitigation measures must be related to eligible disaster-related damages and must directly reduce the potential of future, similar disaster damages to the eligible facility. These opportunities usually present themselves during the repair/replacement efforts.

Proposed projects must be approved by FEMA prior to funding. They will be evaluated for cost effectiveness, technical feasibility, and compliance with statutory, regulatory and executive order requirements. In addition, the evaluation must ensure that the mitigation measures do not negatively impact a facility's operation or risk from another hazard.

Public facilities are operated by state and local governments, Indian tribes or authorized tribal organizations and include:

- Roads, bridges & culverts
- Draining & irrigation channels
- Schools, city halls & other buildings
- Water, power & sanitary systems
- Airports & parks

Private nonprofit organizations are groups that own or operate facilities that provide services otherwise performed by a government agency and include, but are not limited to the following:

- Universities and other schools
- Hospitals & clinics
- Volunteer fire & ambulance
- Power cooperatives and other utilities
- Custodial care & retirement facilities
- Museums & community centers

Title: SBA Disaster Assistance Program

Agency: U.S. Small Business Administration

The SBA Disaster Assistance Program provides low-interest loans to businesses following a Presidential disaster declaration. The loans target businesses to repair or replace uninsured disaster damages to property owned by the business, including real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory and supplies. Businesses of any size are eligible, along with non-profit organizations.

SBA loans can be utilized by their recipients to incorporate mitigation techniques into the repair and restoration of their business.

Title: Community Development Block Grants

Agency: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program provides grants to local governments for community and economic development projects that primarily benefit low- and

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moderate-income people. The CDBG program also provides grants for post-disaster hazard mitigation and recovery following a Presidential disaster declaration. Funds can be used for activities such as acquisition, rehabilitation or reconstruction of damaged properties and facilities and for the redevelopment of disaster areas.

Title: Community Disaster Loan Program

Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency

The purpose of the Community Disaster Loan Program is to provide funds to any eligible jurisdiction in a designated disaster area that has suffered a substantial loss of tax and other revenue. The jurisdiction must demonstrate a need for financial assistance to perform its governmental functions.

Loans are not to exceed 25 percent of the local government's annual operating budget for the fiscal year in which the major disaster occurs, up to a maximum of \$5 million.

Eligible applicants include any local government or other eligible jurisdiction in a designated disaster area that has demonstrated a substantial tax loss and a need for financial assistance to perform its governmental functions.

The State's Governor requests a Presidential declaration of an emergency or disaster through the FEMA Regional Director. An applicant should consult the office or official designated as the single point of contact in the State for more information on the process the State requires to be followed in applying for assistance. Upon declaration of a major disaster, one may apply for assistance through the Governor's authorized representative.

Title: Fire Management Assistance Grant Program

Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Fire Management Assistance is available to States, local and tribal governments, for the mitigation, management, and control of fires on publicly or privately owned forests or grasslands, which threaten such destruction as would constitute a major disaster.

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The Fire Management Assistance declaration process is initiated when a State submits a request for assistance to the FEMA Regional Director at the time a "threat of major disaster" exists. The entire process is accomplished on an expedited basis and a FEMA decision is rendered in a matter of hours.

The Fire Management Assistance Grant Program (FMAGP) provides a 75 percent Federal cost share and the State pays the remaining 25 percent for actual costs.

Before a grant can be awarded, a State must demonstrate that total eligible costs for the declared fire meet or exceed either the individual fire cost threshold - which is applies to single fires, or the cumulative fire cost threshold, which recognizes numerous smaller fires burning throughout a State.

Eligible firefighting costs may include expenses for field camps; equipment use, repair and replacement; tools, materials and supplies; and mobilization and demobilization activities.

Title:	National Dam Safety Program
Agency:	Federal Emergency Management Agency

For more than 25 years, the Federal Government has been working to protect Americans from dam failure through the National Dam Safety Program (NDSP). The NDSP, which is led by FEMA, is a partnership of the states, federal agencies, and other stakeholders to encourage individual and community responsibility for dam safety.

The NDSP, which was formally established by the Water Resources and Development Act of 1996, includes:

- Grant Assistance to the States provides vital support for the improvement of the state dam safety programs that regulate most of the 79,500 dams in the United States.
- Dam Safety Research is a program of technical and archival research.

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- Dam Safety Training is available for state dam safety staff and inspectors.

The Dam Safety and Security Act of 2002, signed into law on December 2, 2002, reauthorized the NDSP for 4 more years and added enhancements to the 1996 Act that are designed to safeguard dams against terrorist attacks.

The North Carolina Division of Emergency Management (NCEM) recently identified over 300 federal "disaster-related" funding sources. This listing includes mostly federal government grant programs that do not necessarily target hazard mitigation projects, but are certainly related and should be considered as good resources for potential mitigation funding. The listing of these funding sources will continue to be used as a reference but was not included within this Plan due to space limitations (the document itself is 128 pages long).

STATE

The following State grant programs have been identified as the primary funding sources to support hazard mitigation projects within the state of North Carolina:

Title: Water and Sewer Grant Programs

Agency: North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center, Inc.

The Rural Center administers two programs to help rural communities develop the water and sewer systems they need to support local economic growth and ensure a reliable supply of clean water. The programs are made possible through appropriations from the North Carolina General Assembly and through proceeds from the Clean Water Bonds, approved by the voters of North Carolina in November 1998.

Following is a brief overview of the two programs. Additional information can be found by requesting the application forms for each program.

Supplemental Grants Program. The Supplemental Grants Program enables local governments and qualified non-profit corporations to improve local water and sewer systems. Projects may address public health and environmental critical needs. The maximum grant amount for this program is now \$500,000.

Planning Grants Program. The Planning Grants Program provides funding for local governments to undertake planning efforts that support strategic investments in water and sewer facilities. Funds typically are used to prepare preliminary engineering reports, master water/sewer plans, capital improvement plans, water/sewer feasibility studies, rate studies and grant applications. The maximum grant amount for this program is generally \$40,000.

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Title: Clean Water Management Trust Fund

Agency: Board of Trustees, Clean Water Management Trust Fund

Created in 1996, the Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF) makes grants to local governments, state agencies and conservation non-profits to help finance projects that address water pollution problems. Specifically, CWMTF will fund projects that (1) enhance or restore degraded waters, (2) protect unpolluted waters, and/or (3) contribute toward a network of riparian buffers and greenways for environmental, educational, and recreational benefits.

At the end of each fiscal year, 6.5% of the unreserved credit balance in North Carolina's General Fund (or a minimum of \$30 million) will go into the CWMTF. Revenues from the CWMTF will then be allocated in the form of grants to local governments, state agencies and conservation non-profits to help finance projects that specifically address water pollution problems. The 18 member, independent, CWMTF Board of Trustees has full responsibility over the allocation of moneys from the Fund.

Title: CAMA Local Planning and Management Grants Program

Agency: North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Coastal Management

The Division of Coastal Management helps local governments in the 20 coastal counties fund local land-use planning and management projects through the CAMA Local Planning and Management Grants Program.

The division accepts grant applications in the spring of each year. Local governments are encouraged to apply for funds for projects that will help them carry out their land- and water-use goals and objectives. Projects that are eligible for funds include new or updated CAMA land-use plans and implementation projects. Examples include local land-use ordinances, beach/waterfront access plans, stormwater management plans, storm-hazard mitigation plans and capital facilities plans.

Some local governments may want to work together on a project designed to address land- and water-use issues on a regional basis. Examples of regional projects include a plan to protect or develop shared resources and other projects to enhance basinwide water-quality protection, economic development, regional transportation, and solid waste or wastewater disposal. For regional projects, one local government must serve as "project sponsor" and administer the grant funds on behalf of the other cooperating local governments. There is a special application for regional projects.

Title: Water Resources Development Grant Program

Agency: North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Water Resources

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Applications for grants may be made for the non-federal share of water resources development projects for the following purposes in amounts not to exceed the percentage of the non-federal costs indicated:

1. General navigation projects that are sponsored by local governments - eighty percent (80%);
2. Recreational navigation projects - twenty-five percent (25%);
3. Construction costs for water management (flood control and drainage) purposes, including utility and road relocations not funded by the State Department of Transportation - sixty-six and two-thirds percent ($66 \frac{2}{3}\%$), but only of that portion of the project specifically allocated for such flood control or drainage purposes;
4. Stream restoration - sixty-six and two-thirds percent ($66 \frac{2}{3}\%$);
5. Protection of privately owned beaches where public access is allowed and provided for seventy-five percent (75%);
6. Land acquisition and facility development for water-based recreation sites operated by local governments - fifty percent (50%);
7. Aquatic weed control projects sponsored by local governments - fifty percent (50%).

LOCAL

Local governments depend upon local property taxes as their primary source of revenue. These taxes are typically used to finance services that must be available and delivered on a routine and regular basis to the general public. If local budgets allow, these funds may be used for other purposes in the general public interest. Many times these funds are used to match Federal or State grant programs when required for large-scale projects.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL

Another potential source of revenue for implementing local mitigation projects are monetary contributions from non-governmental organizations, such as private sector companies, churches, charities, community relief funds, the Red Cross, hospitals, Land Trusts and other non-profit organizations.

SECTION V:

**EVALUATION
AND
ENHANCEMENT**

V. Evaluation & Enhancement

A. MONITORING AND REPORTING

Periodic monitoring and reporting of the Plan is required to ensure that the goals and objectives for Hyde County are kept current and that local mitigation efforts are being carried out. The Plan has therefore been designed to be user-friendly in terms of monitoring implementation and preparing regular progress reports.

ANNUAL REPORTING PROCEDURES

The Mitigation Plan (excluding appendices) shall be reviewed **annually**, as required by the County Manager, or as situations dictate such as following a disaster declaration. Each year, the Emergency Management Coordinator will ensure the following:

1. The County Manager and the Hyde County Board of Commissioners will receive an annual report and/or presentation on the implementation status of the Plan. This report will include, at a minimum, a completed, printed version of the **Mitigation Action Plan (MAP)**. The MAP is a Microsoft Excel® spreadsheet maintained by Hyde County as a tool for monitoring this Plan's implementation and for reporting progress to the County Manager, and has been included as Appendix D within this Plan.
2. The report will include an evaluation of the effectiveness and appropriateness of the mitigation actions proposed in the Plan.
3. The report will recommend, as appropriate, any required changes or amendments to the Plan.

If the County Board of Commissioners determines that the recommendations warrant modification to the Plan, the Board may either initiate a Plan amendment as described in Section B.

In addition to an annual review, implementation progress on proposed mitigation actions should be monitored as a component to the Community Rating System (CRS) re-certification process. As a CRS Community, Hyde County is required to submit an annual re-certification of its CRS activities, including a status report of this Plan if utilized to meet the requirements of *Activity 510 – Floodplain Management Planning*. This provides an ideal opportunity to report the progress made on each assigned mitigation action.

V. Evaluation & Enhancement

B. REVISIONS AND UPDATES

Periodic revisions and updates of the Plan is required to ensure that the goals and objectives for Hyde County are kept current. More importantly, revisions may be necessary to ensure the Plan is in full compliance with Federal regulations and State statutes. This portion of the Plan outlines the procedures for completing such revisions and updates.

THREE (3) YEAR PLAN REVIEW

The three background studies (*Hazard Identification and Analysis, Community Vulnerability Assessment, and Mitigation Capabilities Assessment*) should be reviewed **every 3 years** to determine if there have been any significant changes in Hyde County that would affect the Mitigation Plan. Increased development, increased exposure to certain hazards, the development of new mitigation capabilities or techniques, and changes to Federal or State legislation are examples of changes that may affect the condition of the Plan.

Further, following a disaster declaration, the Plan will need to be revised to reflect on lessons learned or to address specific circumstances arising out of the disaster.

The results of this three (3) year review should become summarized in the annual report prepared for this Mitigation Plan under the direction of the Emergency Management Coordinator. The annual report will include an evaluation of the effectiveness and appropriateness of the Plan, and will recommend, as appropriate, any required changes or amendments to the Plan.

If the County Board of Commissioners determines that the recommendations warrant modification to the Plan, the Board may either initiate a Plan amendment as described below or, if conditions justify, may direct the County Manager to undertake a complete update of the Plan.

PLAN AMENDMENTS

An amendment to the Plan should be initiated only by the Board of Commissioners, either at its own initiative or upon the recommendation of the County Manager, County Planner, County Emergency Manager, or some other person or agency.

Upon initiation of an amendment to the Plan, Hyde County will forward information on the proposed amendment to all interested parties including, but not limited to, all affected County departments, residents and businesses. Information will also be forwarded to the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management. This information will be sent out in order to seek input on the proposed Plan amendment for not less than a forty-five (45) day review and comment period.

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At the end of the comment period, the proposed amendment and all review comments will be forwarded to the Emergency Management Coordinator (or his/her designee) for consideration. If no comments are received from the reviewing parties within the specified review period, such will be noted accordingly. The Emergency Management Coordinator (or his/her designee) will review the proposed amendment along with the comments received from other parties, and submit a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners within sixty (60) days.

In determining whether to recommend approval or denial of a Plan amendment request, the following factors will be considered:

1. There are errors or omissions made in the identification of issues or needs during the preparation of the Plan;
2. New issues or needs have been identified which were not adequately addressed in the Plan;
3. There has been a change in information, data, or assumptions from those on which the Plan was based.

Upon receiving the recommendation of the Emergency Management Coordinator or his/her designee, the Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing. The Board of Commissioners will review the recommendation (including the factors listed above) and any oral or written comments received at the public hearing. Following that review, the Board of Commissioners will take one of the following actions:

1. Adopt the proposed amendment as presented.
2. Adopt the proposed amendment with modifications.
3. Refer the amendments request back to the County Manager for further consideration.
4. Defer the amendment request for further consideration and/or hearing.

FIVE (5) YEAR PLAN REVIEW

The Hazard Mitigation Plan must be reviewed and updated on a five year basis. All areas must be reviewed and updated to show the changes made though out the years and Actions used to make the area safer and prepared for future disasters. Currently the five year update is being developed by the Hyde County Planning Department. The Mitigation Action Committee recommends that the next mitigation plan update be conducted by an outside planning contractor.

The procedure for initiating the 5 year plan update shall be the responsibility of the Hyde County Planning Director. The Planning Director shall convene the Mitigation Action Committee to make a recommendation to the county board of commissioners for the initiation of the plan update process with sufficient lead time prior to the plan expiration date.

V. Evaluation & Enhancement

During the 5 year plan update review process, the Mitigation Action Committee will adhere to FEMA guidelines for developing a local hazard mitigation plan. Every 5 years the updated plan will be submitted to the state hazard mitigation officer for review.

If the plan undergoes major adjustments based on hazard events before a five year period, the County may decide to submit the plan for re-approval sooner.

After the plan is updated and reviewed for accuracy, the plan will then be submitted to FEMA for approval. After FEMA approves the changes, the Board of Commissioners will adopt the plan within one year or less, according to FEMA guidelines.